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LYLE STAFFORD/FOR METRO

NATION'S FABRIC

Why this Winnipeg student is stitching all 94 recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation report onto Canadian flags, **metroNEWS**

Councillors keep it local

CITY HALL

Expense claims show they favour Winnipeg-unique businesses



Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Winnipeg city councillors often trumpet local businesses — and recently published expense claims show they often put their money where their mouths are.

The city's open-data portal is now populated with every council member's individual expense claims from 2016, divided by expense categories like parking, office supplies and "business meetings."

The Winnipeg business that led the way for hosting city councillors' meetings more than any other was, somewhat unsurprisingly, the city hall-proximate Grace Café.

Sixteen business meetings were expensed at the small café at 510 Main St., with the most expensive costing \$228.59, the most affordable costing just \$5.55, and an average cost of \$28.52.

But when councillors hold court over coffee away from city hall, they also

tend to support local — St. James area Coun. Scott Gillingham frequented Joe Black Coffee Bar and San Vito Coffee House, for instance.

If pints fit the business meeting better than caffeine — a rarity, as far as the expense records show — the King's Head Pub seems to be the preferred destination, with the average tab ringing in at \$94.97. Peg Beer Co. was the lone brew pub to make an appearance.

Each councillor's spending reveals a little bit about their favourite local spots.

Mayor Brian Bowman's spending suggests he's a fan of Exchange District eateries Peasant Cookery and Kay's Delicatessen, Coun. Devi Sharma's shows a predilection for deli as she favours Pastrami and Things Delicatessen.

Overall, while the odd meeting takes place at a Keg restaurant, Subway or Tim Hortons, a Winnipeg-unique business like Stella's, Mon Ami Louis or Kum Koon Garden attracted councillors approximately 58 per cent of the time.

Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce spokesperson Matthew TenBruggen-cate said that's something member businesses "obviously support," adding that local-franchisees are also benefiting from the remainder.

"That's a fantastic choice for them to be having their meetings at these businesses ... and having that reinvestment locally," he said.

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Five things to do this weekend

A cupcake-filled silent art auction, a folksy comedy show and fools at The Forks ... all the best Winnipeg attractions are coming out of the woodwork for spring.

LUCY SCHOLEY METRO



The not-for-profit Mentoring Artists for Women's Art (MAWA) is hosting its annual Over the Top! art auction and cupcake party March 24-26 at 611 Main St. LINDSEY BOND PHOTO

1. Sugarcoated silent auction

Art courtesy of Winnipeg's finest artists. One thousand cupcakes. What's not to love? The not-for-profit Mentoring Artists for Women's Art (MAWA) is bringing back its annual Over the Top! art auction and cupcake party. This sweeter version of an elbows-up bidding competition boasts works from more than 180 artists, plus 80 dozen cupcakes to nibble on while art viewing. View the art for free and get your bids in early at a Friday night party between 6 and 10 p.m. The art remains on display Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and the cupcake party is Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 611 Main St. Tickets for Sunday cost \$10 in advance at mawa.ca or \$12 at the door.

2. Folk music meets comedy show

The f-bomb-dropping, folk-music-

singing songstresses of the Fu Fu Chi Chi Choir is joining funny forces with improv group Outside Joke on Saturday night at the Gas Station Arts Centre. This not-to-be-missed show includes an improv performance based on original Fu Fu music in the first half, combined with Outside Joke's own signature musical, backed by the songstresses in the second half. Tickets cost \$15 regular price or \$12 for artists and students.

3. Perfect Pussy in the 'Peg

MTV News host, Perfect Pussy punk musician and music label founder Meredith Graves will be in Winnipeg on Saturday night to talk about feminist approaches to capitalism, DIY and domesticity. Whether you're a feminist, a fan, an intellectual, or all of the above, you can make your way to the University of Winnipeg for 7:15 p.m. The lecture, followed by a Q&A, starts at 8 p.m. Tickets cost

\$10 in advance at ticketfly.com.

4. Time to be a fool

With a sunny, warm weekend ahead, it would be foolish to stay indoors. Why not head to The Forks instead for the Festival of Fools, which launches March 25 and runs daily until March 31? Take the kids to the Winnipeg hotspot any of those days from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for circus workshops, dancing and performances.

5. Two local bands

This weekend marks two 2017 firsts for two (very sonically different) Winnipeg bands. Retro-rock-inspired band Solhounds is launching its first "mini-tour" of the year on Friday night (\$10), while the indie-pop members of FINN are playing an album release party at a show on Saturday (\$15). The Good Will Social Club is hosting both events, which include a slew of other local bands as opening acts.

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Non-profit aims to raise \$150K for art programs

CROWDFUNDING

Outlet for artists with mental health issues in danger



Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
Metro|Winnipeg

For hundreds of adults living with mental health issues, Artbeat Studio has provided an outlet to socialize and heal for the past 12 years.

Now the non-profit's art therapy programs are in jeopardy as the organization faces a major funding shortfall amid growing demand for services, said executive director Lucille Bart.

"As we grow and with less funding, it got us into a tight spot right now," she said.

Artbeat launched an emergency crowdfunding campaign to raise \$150,000 — money the organization lost after previous federal grants fell through and the Downtown Winnipeg BIZ postponed its 2016 CEO Sleepout, which normally gave them funds.

The \$150,000 would sustain their programming until the end of the year while they look



Mary Daniels works on her painting at Artbeat Studio on Thursday. The non-profit says \$150,000 would sustain its programming and offset its current shortfall for the balance of the year while it works to secure new grants and donations. LYLE STAFFORD/FOR METRO

for more grants and donors, Bart said.

Over at Artbeat's Studio Central location on Kennedy Street, it was business as usual among dozens of drop-in clients Thursday.

But program facilitator Jillian Bagan stressed she didn't know where the 30 to 50 clients she sees per day would go, if not for

the studio. It's the only avenue of its kind in Winnipeg for adults wanting to do free drop-in art, she said.

Brad McKay, who has bipolar disorder and PTSD, led a painting class, while Sandy Rubinfeld wove wall hangings with a wooden loom.

Rubinfeld said the weaving

helps her focus on one thing at a time, easing her depression and anxiety.

"Doing art can be very meditative," she said. "You're not thinking about the past. You're not necessarily thinking about the future. You're immersed in what you're doing."

For McKay, Artbeat showed

DETAILS

On April 28, Artbeat will hold an art auction at the Graffiti Gallery (109 Higgins Ave.) as a cap to their emergency fundraiser.

In the meantime, those wanting to buy art or make donations can do so at the Upbeat Artworks store on the second floor of Portage Place.

him he's not alone in his mental health struggles. And according to the Canadian Mental Health Association, one in five Canadians will deal with mental illness in their lifetime.

"We always have that stigma of how mental illness is such a 'faux-pas,'" McKay said, pausing to underline "faux-pas" with air quotes. "But to be honest, everybody has a mental illness — it's just a matter of how severe. Some people are worse than others."

"Artbeat has really shown me how to focus and just work with others and learn from others," McKay said. "It's very gratifying. Artbeat is probably the best thing that's ever happened to me."

MENTAL HEALTH

New youth facility opens

A new therapeutic hub near Osborne Village should help thousands more Winnipeg kids, teens and young adults struggling with mental health issues, according to the Macdonald Youth Services.

The youth agency opened its new 33,000 square-foot, \$7.5-million dollar facility Thursday.

The therapeutic centre, located at 175 Mayfair Ave., is expected to help more than 9,000 kids, teens, young adults and families per year through counselling, life skills training and mobile crisis intervention.

Previously MYS was based in four separate buildings around the city. Cutting back from four buildings to one, MYS expects to save about \$80,000 per year in operating and maintenance costs.

The year-long construction of the new building was funded entirely through private donations, according to a news release.

"We are grateful for the support and generosity of our donors who have taken the therapeutic centre from dream to reality," said MYS CEO Erma Chapman.

Chapman said about two thirds of MYS clients are Indigenous youth and so staff took it upon themselves to be culturally sensitive, having Indigenous elders bless the building and the nearby water supply.

JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI/METRO

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Gnawing costs of rodent claims

INSURANCE

Crown company is changing its policy to save \$6M a year

A Winnipeg media outlet says it's learned Manitoba Public Insurance has changed its rodent claim policy to help the Crown company save \$6 million a year.

CTV News says documents it's obtained show that, as of March 1, the trapping of mice, rats and other pests in vehicles can now be done by exterminators.

As well, not all vehicles will be disassembled to rid them of rodent messes, and air quality tests will no longer be required.

MPI says it had the most stringent rodent claims policy in Canada, and the changes will bring it in line with industry standards.

The company was hit with a bill of more than \$35 million for rodent damage between 2012 and 2015.

The cost spiked to almost

\$15 million last year alone when 3,763 claims came in.

The MPI documents also show the claims have been costing a lot of time, with an average duration of 71 days.

"Safety is our first priority, which is why our claim procedures are being aligned in accordance to guidelines established by the public health agency of Canada," said MPI in a statement emailed to CTV News Wednesday.

Companies that currently do remediation and restoration work on damaged vehicles see the change as a blow to their business.

Rosanne Montemurro runs two out of about 20 remediation companies approved in Manitoba to rid vehicles of rodent troubles, but with fewer claims coming her way, she's already laid off staff and may let more employees go.

"It would have been great if MPI had given the shops a chance to be part of the solution," said Montemurro.

"It feels like the rug has been pulled out from under us. Our business seems to have been given away to another type of business

that has not been through the quality control and accreditation we've had to go through."

Poulin's Pest Control has already handled two dozen claims.

Taz Stuart, entomologist and director of technical operations for the company, said if staff believe a rodent made its way beyond the passenger cabin, Poulin's will notify MPI and the customer.

"We'll assess the level of (rodent) activity and determine whether the interior cabin is dangerous, can be cleaned and if we have the right products to do the disinfection," he said.

MPI said information on its rodent policy change and how drivers can protect their vehicles from pest damage should be available within two weeks, both in pamphlet form and online.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



METRO FILE



It would have been great if MPI had given the shops a chance to be part of the solution. Rosanne Montemurro

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Helene Vosters embroiders all 94 recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation report onto flags in Winnipeg this week. LYLE STAFFORD/FOR METRO

Reconciliation sewn onto flags

INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

Sewing circle offers chance to read, discuss TRC report



Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
Metro | Winnipeg

With every stitch of thread, the 94 recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission become more engrained in Helene Vosters' memory.

The University of Winnipeg student created a roving sewing circle where volunteers can embroider every one of the TRC report's recommendations onto 60 Canadian flags.

"It takes time and I think it serves for me as a real metaphor for the kind of labour and critical engagement with this history that reconciliation requires, especially of settler Canadians,"

Vosters said.

So far, she's brought the stack of flags to ArtsJunktion and the University of Winnipeg's greenhouse art lab for sewing circles. Any volunteers can drop by to help her sew or read from the TRC report she carries with her.

Next week, she's bringing the project to the Tallest Poppy on Thursday and Friday from noon to 4 p.m.

"(The TRC report) should be on tables everywhere," Vosters said. "Too often reports sit on shelves and it is really a powerful document. It's the history that I wasn't taught in school or that my parents as immigrants weren't taught when they had to study to be citizens."

Niigaan Sinclair, acting head and associate professor in the department of native studies at the University of Manitoba, said he hasn't heard of many reading groups tackling the TRC report. However, he's been asked by many private businesses to give talks about the report's recommendations.

Sinclair said the TRC report

has engaged more non-Indigenous Canadians than the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples or the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry of Manitoba, in part due to more mainstream consciousness of Indigenous issues.

"We have come a long way in public awareness on issues involving the problematic and unjust relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the country," Sinclair said. "We have a long way to go, but I think the TRC has given us a roadmap."

Roewan Crowe, chair and associate professor in the women's and gender studies department at the U of W, previously invited Vosters to join her class to discuss "craftivism" — projects that bring together crafting and activism.

"By taking the time to read the TRC report and embroider sections of the report, people will come to know what is actually in the report and have space to talk about what it means and what it can look like in real life," Crowe said.

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BUDGET

Councillor thrilled by transit cash

The federal budget tabled this week promises the kind of transit investment cities have wanted for years, and it will mean big things for Winnipeg, according to Coun. Jenny Gerbasi.

The deputy mayor explained that the Liberal government is planning to provide "long-term, predictable transit funding ... something the Federation for Canadian Municipalities has advocated for."

The budget includes \$20.1 billion for transit projects across the

“If the political will is there, the funding is there from the federal government.” Coun. Jenny Gerbasi

country over the next 11 years — and while it doesn't specify the amount flowing to each city, Gerbasi said the commitment still helps with planning.

"Now we know for X number of years we'll have this funding available to rely on and can actually do long-term planning

for things like rapid transit," she said, adding that kind of reliability is "game-changing for cities like Winnipeg."

The funding formula will depend on ridership and population — which means Winnipeg should get a proportionate share, Gerbasi said.

"Plus, the federal government's share for (jointly funded projects) is going to be 40 per cent.... In previous projects we've seen here, we got much less, not even a third," she said.

She expects it to "really enable Winnipeg to continue building out our bus rapid transit (BRT)."

The city is in the planning stages for the East Corridor, and Gerbasi said the federal government is paving the way to make that line more affordable.

BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

33

There comes a point where you need to say 'enough.'

Coun. Russ Wyatt

Shape up or get out, says Wyatt

CITY HALL

'It's one fiasco after another' with senior bureaucrat

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Unless the city's chief administrative officer (CAO) Doug McNeil changes how he does business, at least one city councillor will call for his resignation.

"Nobody likes to call for this, but we've now had months of the ball being dropped," said Transcona Coun. Russ Wyatt. "We have no choice but to hold the CAO accountable."

Among other issues, Wyatt believes the city "paying an exorbitant price" for Manitoba Hydro land — required for rapid-transit expansion in 2016 — was a result of McNeil not flagging the

transaction until the "11th hour."

He added that it was inappropriate for McNeil to approve a sole-sourced contract for a consultant firm owned by Jeannette Montufar — who was under investigation for another unrelated contract with the city.

According to Wyatt, "the straw that broke the camel's back" was the revelation that the city has to spend half a million dollars to buy land critical to the Waverley underpass due to an oversight.

"It's one fiasco after another," he said.

Wyatt doesn't put all of the blame on McNeil himself but explained that the CAO is accountable to council, and all other senior managers report to him.

"The CAO is not holding his senior management team accountable. There have been no repercussions," he said, adding that he'll wait until council's April meeting to see changes.

"The CAO has to start to show leadership, or I'll move for his removal a month from now."

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No new spending for on-reserve fire safety

INDIGENOUS ISSUES

Federal budget includes no mention of fire protection

Despite "unprecedented" spending for indigenous issues, the new federal budget doesn't promise a penny more for fire prevention in First Nations communities.

The words "fire protection," "fire prevention," and "fire services" do not appear once in the 90,000-word document, which does include \$3.4 billion in new spending for indigenous people in Canada, on top of the \$8.4 billion announced last year.

"There really hasn't been that much dollars allocated to indigenous peoples, basically ever," Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde told reporters in Ottawa on Thursday. "It is in that sense



Fire fighters and Ontario Fire Marshall officials attend the scene of a house fire on Oneida Nation of the Thames, southwest of London, Ont. on Dec. 15, 2016 THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

unprecedented, no question."

"Our challenge now is to make sure that these resources get out to the communities to have a real, substantive impact on the ground," Bellegarde said.

There is new money for indigenous health, languages, off-reserve housing and more. On-reserve infrastructure how-

ever, which includes fire protection services, will see no new money from Budget 2017 despite the government's own figures showing a \$1.7 billion need.

Earlier this winter Torstar News Service investigation revealed that at least 173 people have died in house fires on First

Nations reserves since the federal government stopped keeping track of the data in 2010.

Many of the houses that burn to the ground with people inside them do not meet basic building or fire codes. Overcrowding and inadequate construction means people are often sleeping in very dangerous situations, said Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day.

On the heels of Torstar's investigation, indigenous affairs minister Carolyn Bennett committed to implementing two long-standing recommendations that could help save lives: creating a national indigenous fire marshal's office and tracking fire-related data again.

There is, however, a third recommendation that has been repeatedly sought by the Aboriginal Firefighters Association of Canada — the creation of national legislation enforcing basic fire and building codes on reserves.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

QUEBEC

Homicide triggers probe of police role

Quebec man has been charged with first-degree murder in the slaying of his ex-girlfriend as a police watchdog agency probes the actions of local police in the case.

Anthony Pratte-Lops was arraigned in St-Hyacinthe on Thursday in the death of 18-year-old Daphne Huard-Boudreault and will remain behind bars until the case returns to court April 19.

Huard-Boudreault died in hospital on Wednesday after she was attacked in a home the couple had shared in Mont-St-Hilaire, about 45 kilometres southeast of Montreal.

Pratte-Lops was arrested at

the scene. On Thursday, a judge ordered him to not contact the victim's parents.

Huard-Boudreault's work colleagues at a convenience store in nearby Otterburn Park told various media the young woman feared her ex-boyfriend and they said local police weren't much help to her. They allege police said they were powerless to act.

Two separate investigations have been launched — a provincial police probe into the slaying and another by Quebec's bureau for independent investigations into police operations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hubbub in the House

The customary grilling of government that follows the tabling of a federal budget was all but shoved aside Thursday as opposition MPs pressed the Liberals not on their fiscal balance, but their work-life one.

Government House leader Bardish Chagger spent more time on her feet in question period than did the finance minister as she was forced again and again to defend Liberal efforts to change

the rules that govern the House of Commons. Chagger released a discussion paper on the subject last week, proposing ideas including abolishing the Friday sitting, allowing electronic voting and creating a special question period for MPs to direct all questions to the prime minister.

The debate has consumed the Commons, and contributed to a delay Wednesday in the tabling of the budget. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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'We are not afraid': May

TERROR ATTACK

Britain's PM encourages return to normality

Authorities on Thursday identified a 52-year-old Briton as the man who mowed down pedestrians and stabbed a policeman to death outside Parliament, saying he had a long criminal record and once was investigated for extremism — but was not currently on a terrorism watch list.

As lawmakers returned to work a day after the rampage killed five people and injured at least 30, British Prime Minister Theresa May vowed: "We are not afraid."

"Today we meet as normal — as generations have done before us, and as future generations will continue to do," she said to cheers in the House of Commons.

Daesh claimed responsibility for Wednesday's attack, which police said was carried out by Khalid Masood, a U.K.-born resident of the West Midlands in central England.

Masood plowed a rented SUV



People at a vigil at Trafalgar Square in London on Thursday. GETTY IMAGES

into pedestrians on London's Westminster Bridge, killing an American man and a British woman and injuring more than 30 people.

A 75-year-old victim on the bridge died late Thursday of his wounds, police said. He fatally stabbed a police officer inside the gates of Parliament.

Some of the victims were identified as Kurt Cochran, 54, of Utah and British school administrator Aysha Frade, 43 and 48-year-old Constable Keith

Palmer, a 15-year veteran of the Metropolitan Police.

Police arrested eight people on suspicion of preparing terrorist acts as authorities sought Masood's motive and possible support network.

One arrest was in London, while the others were in the West Midlands city of Birmingham, London and Wales. Police said they were searching properties in Birmingham, London and Wales.

As police investigated, Parliament got back to business,

opening the day with a minute's silence for the victims.

May set the tone in the House of Commons, saluting the heroism of police and the ordinary actions of everyone who went about their lives in the aftermath.

"It is in these actions — millions of acts of normality — that we find the best response to terrorism. A response that denies our enemies their victory, that refuses to let them win."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A look at victims of attack near London's Parliament

The five people killed and at least 30 injured in the attack in Westminster were a cosmopolitan snapshot of one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities.

The dead included a British policeman, stabbed repeatedly, an American tourist who was celebrating his 25th wedding anniversary and a school administrator adored in the Spanish town where she spent summer vacations with her family.

Here's what's known about the victims:

Police Officer Keith Palmer, 48, was on duty protecting Parliament Wednesday when he was stabbed to death.

He had been a member of the parliamentary and diplomatic protection forces for 15 years, and a soldier in the Royal Artillery before that.

Honouring Palmer, Prime Minister Theresa May said he was "a husband, a father ... he was every inch a hero."

Aysha Frade, a British national whose mother is Spanish, was one of two people killed on the bridge.

In the northwestern Spanish

town of Betanzos, where her mother was born and her two sisters run an English-language school, the mayor said: "The whole town is shocked."

Although Frade, 43, was born and lived in London, she spent weeks every summer in Betanzos visiting relatives, said Ramon Garcia Vazquez, mayor of the town of 13,000 people in Spain's Galicia region.

Kurt W. Cochran, from the United States, was on the last day of a trip celebrating his 25th wedding anniversary when he was killed, according to the Mormon church his parents-in-law work for.

His wife, Melissa, was seriously injured. She remains hospitalized.

In a tweet, U.S. President Donald Trump called Cochran "a great American" and said: "My prayers and condolences are with his family and friends." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Aysha Frade



Keith Palmer



Kurt Cochran

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Africa has worst hunger crisis in 70 years, UN says

FAMINE

Trump's plan to cut aid will up suffering: Spokesman

Africa faces the world's largest humanitarian crisis since 1945, with more than 20 million people facing starvation, and any cut in funding to humanitarian agencies working in famine-affected areas will cause untold suffering, a spokesman for the World Food Program said in Johannesburg Thursday, responding to questions about U.S. President Donald Trump's proposal to cut \$10 billion in foreign aid.

"Any cuts at this time are extremely significant, not just for us but for any UN agencies and any aid organization," said David Orr, WFP's Africa spokesman, at a media briefing in Johannesburg. "With the magnitude of needs at the moment it is vital that we continue with a



Thousands of people fleeing the parched countryside arrive daily at a makeshift camp on the outskirts of Baidoa in southwestern Somalia. GETTY IMAGES

high level of assistance."

The current hunger crisis is in three African countries, South Sudan, Somalia and Nigeria, as well as nearby Yemen.

The U.S. is WFP's largest donor and was one of the organization's founders. Last year it contributed more than \$2

billion, representing about 24 per cent of WFP's total budget, Orr said.

UN operations in South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen and Nigeria will require more than \$5.6 billion this year, he said. At least \$4.4 billion is needed by the end of March to avert

a catastrophe, he said, but so far the U. has only received \$90 million.

"The more dramatic cuts in any aid budgets, the more the number of deaths, the more suffering there is going to be," Orr said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Sudan accused of ignoring famine

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres accused South Sudan's government on Thursday of refusing to express "any meaningful concern" about the plight of 100,000 people suffering from famine, 7.5 million in need of humanitarian aid and thousands more fleeing fighting.

The UN chief delivered a sharp rebuke to the country's president, Salva Kiir, saying that most often the international community hears denials — "a refusal by the leadership to even acknowledge the crisis or to fulfil its responsibilities to end it."

There were high hopes that South Sudan would have peace and stability after its independence from neighbouring Sudan in 2011. But the country plunged into ethnic violence in December 2013 when forces loyal to Kiir, a Dinka, started battling those loyal to Riek Machar, his former vice-president who is a Nuer. A peace deal signed in August 2015 has not stopped the fighting and the three-year civil war has devastated the country, killed tens of thousands, and contributed to a famine in two counties.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOMALIA CRISIS

Leader pleads for global help to avert starvation

Somalia's president said Thursday that almost half his country's people are facing acute food shortages and about 15 per cent are facing famine, and he urged the world to help.

Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed told the UN Security Council that

Somalis are proud and resilient and would be the last to ask for help, but drought has spawned a humanitarian crisis that could threaten recent political and security gains.

The UN said Wednesday that the \$864 million UN humanitarian appeal for Somalia is only 31 per cent funded. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

HOW DID THIS CHICKEN GET SO BIG?

Despite what you may have read on the Internet, gigantic chickens are nothing to be afraid of. The chicken in that viral video from Kosovo belongs to a very large breed called the Brahma. How did it get that big? The usual way: selective breeding. Here's how it works.

HISTORY

Brahmas are believed to have been bred from Cochins, a preposterously fluffy, massive breed from South Asia. A craze for Brahmas and other giant chickens swept the western world in the mid-1800s, according to poultry historian Andrew Lawler.

DIVERSITY

The wild relatives of modern chickens, **red junglefowl**, gifted today's pluckers with incredible genetic diversity. Chickens come in an astounding variety of shapes, sizes and colours. All those differences result from variations in DNA between chicken breeds and individual chickens. A 2004 study found chickens have six to seven times more genetic diversity than humans do.

ARTIFICIAL SELECTION

Like humans, chickens have two copies of all their genes, one from each parent. Say there's a single gene that causes giant-ness in chickens. Possibly, some giants may have just one copy of the gene, while others have two. If farmers breed giant chickens only with other giants over many generations, eventually all chicks will reliably be giant.

That means the whole

flock is **homozygous**: They all have two copies of the giant gene, and all their future chicks will too. This is called **breeding true**.



NATURAL SELECTION

Sometimes a particular genetic trait will help a species survive and reproduce better. That trait will tend to become more common over time. That's **natural selection**. But for centuries, humans have interfered with this process, breeding chickens for traits they want to see. That's **artificial selection**.

FINDINGS

Your week in science



DINOSAUR DUST-UP

Since the 1800s, we've divided dinosaurs into two groups. The T. Rex and brontosaurus were in one, and triceratops, duckbills and stegosaurus in another. But a new study of fossils from 75 species says we should scrap that system. In the new family tree, the T. Rex is more closely related to the duckbill and the brontosaurus is a distant cousin.

HEART HEALTHY SALAD

An American team has turned spinach leaves into something that looks and works a lot like real, beating heart tissue. They replaced plant cells with heart cells, relying on the leaf's "veins" for structure.

SOUND SMART



DEFINITION

Catabolism is the process of breaking down complex, large molecules into smaller ones, usually releasing energy at the same time. Turning food into energy is a process of **catabolism**.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE

Deborah is hopping up and down because she just got a burst of energy from the fast **catabolism** of all the sugar she ate.

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CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

The biological computers of the future

Will we really soon have computers made of DNA?

Teams all over the world are working on quantum computers. Through the magic of quantum physics, one day these babies may be able to routinely handle files the size of 40,000 videos and run fast enough to break all the encryption methods that currently exist. (Encryption is just a fancy way of saying "giving a computer a number so big that it gets stumped.")

If quantum computers come together the way scientists at Google and the Canadian Institute for Quantum Computing are hoping, we're going to need some better technology for information storage.

There aren't enough hard disks in the world for all that data.

Enter the storage molecule of the future: DNA. If you were to uncoil all the DNA in all the cells in your body, it would reach past the edge of our solar system.

All that is small enough to fit inside you!

DNA contains information: A sequence of acids represented by the letters A, C, T and G. Scientists have already managed translating DNA sequences into binary code, the basic language all our computers speak.

DNA persists for thousands of years, meaning our data could be kept secure and accessible in perpetuity, unlike that box of floppy disks in your basement.

It's a moonshot. We're nowhere near figuring out how to write information onto DNA and read it back out in an accurate, reliable and speedy manner. But I have confidence we'll get there.

It's like landing humans on Mars. I have faith that (crazy!) day will come, too. The hopeful march forward is what science is all about.

Science Question?

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Morphin back to '90s nostalgia

IN FOCUS

Power Rangers is a throwback, but is it a lazy retread?

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



What do Point Break, Independence Day and Beauty and the Beast have in common? All are movies released in the 1990s and all have been remade, reimagined or rebooted in recent years.

Brand-happy Hollywood is in overdrive repurposing Saturday morning superhero cartoons, big screen hits and other touchstones of '90s pop culture and audiences have mostly lapped up the nostalgia from the Clinton years.

Independence Day: Resurgence and Point Break tanked but Beauty and the Beast, to use a 90s term, was all that and a bag of chips — box-office wise.

This weekend it's morphin' time once again as the Power Rangers are resurrected for the big screen.

Featuring familiar characters but an all new cast, Power Rangers sees the helmeted heroes rescue the world from a powerful witch, an army of stone golems called Putties and Goldar, a giant golden monster born on

Titan, one of Saturn's moons.

It's a blast from the past designed to draw in new fans while appealing to grown ups who came of age in the 1990s but is it possible to feel nostalgia for four actors in plastic helmets?

The dictionary tells us nostalgia is "a sentimental longing or wistful affection for the past, typically for a period or place with happy personal associations."

Science tells us more.

As a recent study showed when we get bad news or are feeling down, nostalgic, misty memories of a simpler time almost automatically kick in.

Call it protection.

Call it wistfulness.

Call it whatever you like; Hollywood calls it money and exploits it ruthlessly because movies are a natural nostalgic go-to. They are the stuff from which dreams are woven and the feelings associated with them can give us comfort when the going gets rough.

We now live in unsettled times, so perhaps the neo Power Rangers will bring back recol-

lections of carefree Saturday mornings spent watching the TV show. Or a long ago Halloween costume inspired by Amy Jo Johnson (the popular Pink Ranger) but at the rate Hollywood is recycling ideas we'll soon run out of things to get nostalgic about. Can you be nostalgic for nostalgia?

As I see it, nostalgia is bad for the movies. It encourages lazy retreads and reimaginings, not innovation and originality. If we demand new films to make memories with, to fall in love with, then Hollywood's raiding of pop culture brands must stop. Romanian-American poet and novelist Andrei Codrescu says that in the grand collage that is art, the "past and future are equally usable." I'm just wishing Hollywood would look to the future more often.

To a degree, all art is a combination of everything that came before. But interesting, original films like Moonlight, Manchester by the Sea and Get Out give me hope that some filmmakers have their eyes facing forward and aren't simply wallowing in nostalgia.



MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Life	★★★★
Power Rangers	★★
Personal Shopper	★★★★
Wilson	★★
The Second Time Around	★★★

HOW RATING WORKS

★★★★★	SEE IT
★★★★	WORTHWHILE
★★★	UP TO YOU
★★	SKIP IT



Elizabeth Banks plays powerful sorceress Rita Repulsa in the new Power Rangers. CONTRIBUTED

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Rangers power up to stand out

ACTION MOVIES

Latest reboot combines big spectacle with cerebral drama

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



To paraphrase Mark Twain, there's no such thing as a new idea. Instead, as the great American humorist insisted, we only twist old ideas into curious new combinations.

Of all things, that's just what has happened to Power Rangers.

In the 1990s, the Japanese-influenced live-action series about a quintet of teens who achieve the ability to morph into superheroes not only captivated young minds, it grew into a global marketing phenomenon and the most-watched children's program on American television.

"I'm excited to see how people receive the film," admitted Australian actor Dacre

Montgomery, who plays the team-leading Red Ranger in the reboot. "I think it is a good representation of where we're at in the world at the moment and it's good that it has an opportunity to come back to life."

For those who recall, there wasn't anything fancy about the original series — just a bunch of costumed martial-arts stuntmen groaning and duelling with goofy rubber monsters on cheap-looking sets.

In the age of the big-screen blockbuster however, Power Rangers is ready for an impressive effects makeover on par with Marvel hits like The Avengers and Guardians of the Galaxy.

"This film draws a fine line between those other movies,"



This film draws a fine line between those other movies.

Dacre Montgomery

explained Montgomery. "Those visceral, intelligent, complex movies that are so beautiful to watch and the big superhero spectacles — and hopefully combines them in such an effective way that we can engage (fans) on an even deeper level than other superhero franchises."

Another way the reboot attempts to carve itself a piece of the comic-book movie market is through inclusivity. Whereas the old show was a campy mess of non-stop action, producers aimed to ensure the new squad resonated with today's teens by providing depth and proving how our differences can maximize our full potential when fully united.

"All of the Marvel and DC worlds — they're not as diverse as this cast is," added Montgomery.

"We are legitimately from different corners of the planet, each of the cast members, and although we don't this American accent, we all bring different cultural elements of our backgrounds of upbringing to those roles which makes it an even more diverse and interesting dynamic."



RJ Cyler (Billy), Naomi Scott (Kimberly), Ludi Lin (Zack), Dacre Montgomery (Jason), and Becky G (Trini), star in the new Power Rangers movie. CONTRIBUTED



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Sweet side of Ford is missing in Filth City

PREMIERE

Savagery in film *Filth City* outweighs the true story

Kevin Donovan
scene@metronews.ca

Actor Pat Thornton does what the Toronto Police could never do. He nails Rob Ford, providing a chaotic and quite perfect impersonation of the late mayor of Toronto.

Four years ago, sitting in the back of a darkened car watching the crack video on an iPhone with colleague Robyn Doolittle, I felt like we were in a cheap crime drama.

Late-night phone calls. Coffee. Drive to a prescribed location. Wait. Small talk. Wait. Get into car with strange man. Get driven to a parking lot. Convince a drug-and-gun dealer to show video of Toronto's top politician smoking a rock of crack.

The Rob-Ford-on-crack video we saw that night is the one Thornton has brought to the screen as Mayor Tom Hogg in the movie *Filth City*. Out of his mind on drugs for most of the film, wheezing, screaming, lecherous, crude and yet quite messianic in his desire to save taxpayers money.

Our Ford had the slogan, "Stop the gravy train." This Hogg goes a bit further, vowing to take all of the social programs, the subsidized housing and the schools that are using up taxpayers' money and "Suck them dry!"

Missing from his characterization of the mayor is what



Actor Pat Thornton, above, plays Tom Hogg while Siobhan Murphy, right, plays Miriam Keen in *Filth City*. HANDOUTS

I came to understand as the sweet side of Ford — his actions tormented his family, but he did love them; among Ford Nation he was pretty much a deity.

That's why Ford Nation was so angry that the cops and media were after him. This Hogg has no family, but he does have a sidekick he calls "Bro," a more sympathetic, though less loyal, character than the real Doug Ford, brother of Rob.

What is not missing from the movie is the crack, and lots of it. The cops do crack. Mayor Hogg does crack. Oh, and the guns.

Agatha Christie once said that her approach to writing mystery stories was to drop in another body when things got dull. I stopped counting at 10 killed, mostly in wild shootouts.

Every time I grew to like a character in the movie, he was killed. That wholesale violence

never happened in the Ford story, though two of the three men Ford was photographed with outside the house where the video was filmed were later shot outside a bar, and one of them died.

In *Filth City* all of the crazy rumours we reporters heard on the chase come to life: The suitcase full of cash in return for the video — in the movie, yes; never happened in real life. Cops on the side of the mayor, working aggressively to find the video to destroy it — unfounded scuttlebutt in the Ford case and, at the end of the day, it was the then-chief Bill Blair who confirmed the video's existence six months after Robyn and I first saw it.

As in real life, the movie's star is the crack video itself. The at-times-fruitless, fraught-with-danger search for the elusive iPhone clip that so many (in



Toronto and in the mythical and garbage-ridden *Filth City*) wanted for their own purposes. Some wanted it to bring down a mayor. Some wanted it to make sure a mayor stayed propped up. And some wanted it to make money to get out of town, or to tell the public whom they had elected.

And like mayor Ford, Mayor Hogg had a simple plan.

"I'm gonna work my ass off to be the best goddamn mayor of all time!" Hogg tells a very high Hogg Nation campaign crowd. Apart from the carnage in *Filth City*, it works out a great deal better for this mayor than it did for ours.

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With Personal Shopper, misery loves company

PERSONAL SHOPPER

French director praises Kristen Stewart in their second film

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Ghostbusting is supposed to make you feel good. If that's true, why does *Personal Shopper*'s Maureen (played by Kristen Stewart) appear so miserable all the time? Perhaps it's because the spirit she is trying to bust is that of her brother Lewis, a twin who died of a heart attack in a rambling, old Paris house.

In her second film with French director Olivier Assayas, the *Twilight* star gives a career topping performance, brittle yet calm in the face of mounting terror.

There is a detached feel to the performance that recalls the remove Hitchcock's leading ladies often projected as she navigates through personal tragedy and supernatural mystery.

"Kristen is the great actress of her generation," says Assayas. "I feel very privileged to have this connection with her. It is miraculous to work with a young actress who realizes there is no end to what she can do. You tell her, 'You can fly,' and she doesn't believe it and then she does it."

"I have always loved to work

with young actors and actresses. You catch them at a moment when they are transforming and opening up. I think it is always interesting to work with actors when you can give them something. When you work with great actors who have done it all, it is very difficult because you give them something that they have already done better in another movie ten years before."

Their previous collaboration, *Clouds of Sils Maria*, earned Stewart a rare honour. She was the first American actress to be nominated for and win a best supporting actress César award, the French equivalent of an Oscar.

"She is obsessed with breaking anything that could feel like routine," he says. "She gives herself this rule of not doing what she would instinctively do. When you do a scene there is an obvious starting place. She never takes it. That's what I love. As a writer I don't want to see what I imagined, I want to see an actor who takes it, who appropriates it and does something else with it. That's when it becomes real and human."

"Usually I work with actors once, twice and after a while I realize we've gone all the way. With Kristen I think I could go on and on."

Personal Shopper is a ghost story, so things take a strange turn when Maureen's phone lights up with mysterious texts while she's on a quick Chunnel trip to London. "R U real? R U alive or dead?" she writes, re-



Olivier Assayas, known for his cerebral films, says Kristen Stewart has great instincts. AP

plying to the Unknown texter. "Tell me something you find unsettling," comes the response, opening the door for Maureen to begin exploring her fears, phobias, digging deeper than she ever has.

"I don't believe in the supernatural but I believe there is more to life than the material world. Science kind of proves it. There is so much going on that we can't see because it is

too small or too big or whatever. We have our own relationship with some invisible world. Each of us has his own version of it. You end up living with the departed."

"Each of us has an inner world which is much more complex than the material world. It's much more fascinating in terms of cinema. I don't think it is bizarre to try and connect with that."

INTERVIEW

Real life haunts Kristen Stewart

In the disheveled backroom of an East Village restaurant, Kristen Stewart is sarcastically motivating the French director Olivier Assayas for a photo shoot.

"You're in America now, dude," Stewart jokes. "We've got to sell the s— out of this movie."

Stewart, a blockbuster veteran at 26, is well acquainted with the demands of movie promotion. But with Assayas, she has found a freedom from such concerns. She and the director have forged an unlikely but formidable bond that has resulted in two highly acclaimed movies, both made in Europe, far outside of Hollywood jurisdiction.

They're an odd pair: She, a rebel A-lister from Los Angeles who has become one of the movie's most exciting and uncompromising actors; he, a demure Parisian whose layered, cerebral films teeter between reality and fiction.

What makes them click? she chuckles.

"That's the main question," she says. "I don't know. We like each other."

Their latest film, *Personal Shopper*, is full of mysteries, too. It's a ghost story, set in a contemporary world of texting and Googling. In the film, which opens Friday, Stewart plays a twin whose brother has just died. Her day job is shopping in Paris for a stuck-up celebrity, but she's also a medium, and a series of strange encounters make her believe a spirit (her brother?) is contacting her.

There were plenty of moments while making *Personal Shopper* where Stewart's fame invaded. Shooting on the streets of Paris (Stewart drives a moped through the city in the film), they were surrounded by paparazzi.

But Stewart says she channeled the intrusions into her haunted character. "I thought I was being taken from, and it



Kristen Stewart delivers second acclaimed film, *Personal Shopper*, with French director Olivier Assayas. CONTRIBUTED

was good," she says. "It made me more sensitive. My nerves were very close to the surface."

The former *Twilight* actress, with freshly buzzed blonde hair, has deservedly made a reputation for herself as an unusually forthright and frank star. She has taken part after part, usually in smaller, indie productions, with an insatiable urge to work, to keep exploring. Stewart also debuted a short film she directed at Sundance this year.

In a memorable Saturday Night Live monologue earlier this year, she reflected on when Donald Trump in 2012 repeatedly tweeted that her then-boyfriend Robert Pattinson should "dump" her. "It was inconceivable, actually," Stewart says. "At the time, I regarded him as like a reality-show star. I was like: Who is this guy?"

She also, in a rebuke to Trump and an inspiration to others, announced, "And I'm like so gay, dude."

"I've really allowed myself to really freely and with no regard to the effect of others live my life," says Stewart.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Usually I work with actors once, twice and after a while I realize we've gone all the way. With Kristen I think I could go on and on.

Olivier Assayas, director

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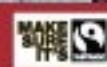


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Greer roots for Harrelson

NEW RELEASE

Archer voice actor plays dog sitter in new movie Wilson

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



Judy Greer wrote a charming, self-deprecating book called *I Don't Know What You Know Me From: Confessions of a Co-Star* that chronicles her busy career as the second lead in dozens of movies and television shows like *Jurassic World*, *Ant-Man*, *Arrested Development* and *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*.

She is, as her twitter bio reads, "that girl from that movie/tv show," a familiar face on screens big and small. If you can't place the face, perhaps you'll recognize the voice. One of her longest running roles has her voicing the clingy and emotionally fragile Cheryl Tunt on the wildly popular adult animated spy sitcom *Archer*. For Greer herself the show has provided a career highpoint.

"I got to sign someone's boobs at Comic-Con last year," she says. "I think you've really made it if you have your own action figure and people want you to sign their boobs."

There are other perks as well.

"I went to a dinner party recently, now I'm about to

name drop, and Jon Hamm was there. He played a role on *Archer* but we don't record together so I never get to meet anyone who does it. When I saw him he said, 'God, I love your work on *Archer* and I love *Archer* so much I just wanted to be in it.' That was so cool. That was a highlight. Jon Hamm and the boob signing. They work well in tandem. Maybe I'll sign Jon Hamm's boobs sometime!"

Her latest film, *Wilson*, gave her the chance to meet another of her favourite actors. "I'm looking to work with people who inspire me. I'm pretty happy with the

roles I'm getting and I just want to work with more of my idols. I definitely checked that box with Woody (Harrelson)."

In the film Greer plays Shelly, a dog sitter who is one of the only people who finds the

offbeat title character charming.

"There are a handful of actors who couldn't play this role because you would hate them all the way through to the end. Woody himself is so lovely and wonderful that in the beginning when *Wilson* is kind of terrible Woody makes you root for him."

"After I saw the movie I found myself wanting to spend more time talking to people who irritate me," she says.

"Maybe that person is a *Wilson* and *Wilson* is great. I would want to hear *Wilson*'s opinion about things. Maybe

I'm shutting people down too quickly. Maybe I need to give people who have strong opinions a little bit more of a minute in my life. Maybe there is something to be learned from them."

The effervescent 41-year-old, who will next be seen in *War for the Planet of the Apes*, laughs when she says, "I felt strongly that (director) Craig (Johnson) would be making a huge mistake by not cast-

ing me."

"Sometimes when I read something I fall in love with the character I'm going to play and sometimes I fall in love with the movie itself. In this case I fell in love with the whole movie, the script itself. I had to see this movie pop up for years to come and be so proud that I had a small piece of it. I wanted to do what I could to help *Wilson* and his story."



Judy Greer says working on *Wilson* made her want to spend more time with people who irritate her. HANDOUT

There are a handful of actors who couldn't play this role because you would hate them all the way through to the end.
Judy Greer

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HEAD IN THE CLOUDS UPDATED CLOUD ATLAS GOES DIGITAL

Clouds can now wander a little less lonely. On Thursday, World Meteorological Day was marked by the official unveiling of upwards of a dozen 'new' clouds by the world's weather chiefs. The spirits of amateur cloudspotters were also sent sky high with the release of a new digital edition of the International Cloud Atlas — the classification system for clouds and meteorological phenomena — which had last been updated in 1987. **JOE CALLAGHAN/METRO**



Asperitas's moment in the sun

After much campaigning from citizen cloudspotters, asperitas was recognized as a new cloud, the atlas describing it "as if viewing a roughened sea surface" from below. "Probably everyone has noticed these once in a while," said Sills. "We see them here in Southern Ontario six or seven times a year. It's quiet dramatic, you'll see social media light up with pictures, especially if it's at sunrise or sunset."



Volutus comes in from the storm

A whole new species, volutus was quite literally a slow roller. "Sometimes you get a thunderstorm and it produces this gust of cold air that moves out from under it," explains Sills. "Hence that leading edge keeps moving and moving, especially if it's near sunset, it can keep moving overnight."



Citizen cloud-spotters matter

Those nice Instagram snaps you take, like this cavum in Hong Kong? They matter. "Glaciologists trying to track where glaciers are receding have gone on to Flickr and are harvesting upwards of 500,000 to a million photos of glaciers that people have uploaded and used those to track glaciers," explains Austin. "You could imagine similar with clouds."



Human, nature impact felt

Clouds formed over forests and waterfalls are newly classified, like the cataractagenitus you're likely to see at Niagara Falls. "There's homogenitus which is anthropogenic (artificial) type of clouds formed from smokestacks or contrails from jets," says Sills. "It's a special type of cumulus formation like flammagenitus which is a big cumulus cloud caused by a forest fire."



Go catch 'em all

"There's a whole nephology community out there with your typical cloud nerds who have all the names memorized," said Sills. "It's something fun for everyone. And now more people can get involved."

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Line-free parks worth the wait

AMUSEMENT

Theme-parks seeking ways to eliminate long tedious lineups

At Universal Orlando Resort's new Race Through New York Starring Jimmy Fallon ride, waiting in line has been replaced by lounging on couches and listening to a racy barber shop quartet sing until it's time to enter the ride.

Universal is leading the theme-park charge into "virtual lines" that give visitors options for exploring a park or watching live entertainment instead of the tedium of looking at someone's back as you inch forward step by step to the thrill ride.

"It's kind of a bit of a science experiment for all of us," said Jason Surrall, a Universal creative director said about the "queue-less" waits. "We've known for years that waiting in line is one of the biggest dissatisfiers in our guests' day."

Universal is also trying the concept at another attraction. Later this year, when Universal opens its new Volcano Bay water park in Orlando, visitors will be given wristbands that will alert them when it's their turn to get on a ride.

"I think it represents the future of what we're going to be doing in themed entertainment," Surrall said. "I kind of

RIDE TIME
Race through New York offers "queue-less" waits. Visitors browse memorabilia and lounge until it's their turn.



With the opening of Race through New York, Universal is leading the theme-park charge into "virtual lines." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

joke that this is the first step on a journey that will eventually lead us to a generation that doesn't even know about theme park lines. It will be 'What do you mean, wait in a queue? What's that, Grandpa?'"

Virtual lines are the latest evolution in theme parks' efforts to shorten or eliminate waits for rides, or if waits are necessary evils, to improve the experience of biding one's time.

Almost two decades ago, those efforts were concentrated on elaborately-designed "pre-ride" lines such as Univer-

sal's The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man, which goes past an elaborately-detailed Daily Bugle newsroom.

A few years later came the ride reservations systems of the FastPass and Express Pass at Disney and Universal parks, respectively, in which ride-goers are assigned periods of time to show up for rides. But those reservations need to be made ahead of time, for the most part, and visitors can only make them on three rides a day.

Universal opens that concept to everybody, not just advanced

planners, with its two new attractions, while also offering entertainment during the wait.

"Everybody is trying to do this, working not only on the rides but how to get you on the rides," said Dennis Spiegel, who heads the theme park consulting firm, International Theme Park Services. "Universal is at the forefront right now."

The Jimmy Fallon attraction and the Volcano Bay water park take different approaches to virtual lines.

At the Jimmy Fallon attraction, which opens next month,

visitors enter an area made to look like the lobby of a Rockefeller Center building. Instead of getting in line, they can meander through the lobby looking at photos and memorabilia of past and present Tonight Show hosts and watch TVs playing clips of hosts Steve Allen, Jack Paar, Johnny Carson, Jay Leno and Jimmy Fallon. Up a flight of stairs are a lounge with couches, half a dozen consoles with touch screens displaying Tonight Show videos and a theatre stage. Visitors can hang out in the lounge area, charging their

phones or talking while they wait. They can dance or take photos with an actor in the costume of Hashtag the Panda, a staple character from Jimmy Fallon's show or listen to a performance from The Ragtime Gals, an incarnation of the barber shop quartet which is also a staple of the TV show.

When they enter the building, visitors are given a card with one of the colours in the NBC peacock logo. When it's their turn to go on the ride, lights in the waiting area will flash their colour and the singers will announce the colour. If they don't want to wait in the building, they can return at a designated time.

Universal hasn't released many details about how virtual lines will work at Volcano Bay, other than to say a watch-like device named TapuTapu will be given to visitors. It will flash "Ride Now" when it's their time to go on a ride.

Technology and our growing impatience with waiting are driving the move toward virtual lines, Spiegel said.

The proliferation of cellphone apps, along with the development of wristbands that emit radio signals, pioneered by Disney and able to track movement, made the virtual lines technically possible. America's growing impatience with waiting, from speed dating to Amazon Prime's two-hour deliveries makes it culturally imperative.

"Nobody wants to stand in line. We want to be first," Spiegel said. "It's just the way society is evolving."

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Getting schooled at a N.B. aquarium

SHIPPAGAN

Focus on local aquatic life rather than tropical species

Have you touched a blue lobster lately? That's a question for visitors as they enter the New Brunswick Aquarium and Marine Centre in Shippagan, N.B.

Located on the northeast shore of the province, the aquarium is now in its 35th year, offering visitors a better understanding of aquatic life in Eastern Canada and the fishing industry.

"Visitors have the opportunity to witness our natural heritage here. It's our livelihood here in northern New Brunswick," said Laurent Robichaud, co-ordinator of development and promotion for the centre. Situated on the waterfront in Shippagan, the centre features a scenic view, a lighthouse built more than a century ago and an outdoor tank with seals ready to amuse.

"People have an opportunity to see them being fed twice a day. They get to see how smart they are, how fast they are, and the



Atlantic Sturgeon at the Shippagan Aquarium. Top right: A jellyfish tank in Shippagan. Left bottom: A rare albino Atlantic Lobster at the bottom of an indoor tank. THE CANADIAN PRESS

interpreters explain the biology of these amazing animals also," Robichaud said.

Inside, 31 large and colourful tanks can be seen as you wind your way through the aquarium's corridors. Many of the displays

include interactive elements.

"We usually have about 100 species, or about 3,000 fish and invertebrates at all times," Robichaud said. A large tank in the lobby displays coloured lobsters, ranging from blue to orange to

polka-dotted, and some with one colour on one side and a different colour on the other side.

"We even have a lobster that has both sexes. I'm not sure how rare that is, but it's certainly more than one in every 100 mil-

lion," Robichaud said.

Blue lobsters tend to be the most popular among the 34,000 people who visit every year, he said. Only about one in every four to five million lobsters is blue.

Unlike some aquariums that

display exotic bright and colourful tropical fish, the centre in Shippagan highlights aquatic life that can be found in the waters of Eastern Canada.

You'll see large sturgeon, eels, crabs, starfish and many more and get a chance to learn how they live in the wild. Visitors will also learn that the waters are home to different whales, sharks and even leatherback turtles.

Education and research are important components of the facility, which is visited by about 2,500 school children each year. Most come from New Brunswick, but there are also classes from Quebec and the state of Maine who make the trip. Much of the curriculum is geared towards children in grades 3 to 5.

The province's largest commercial fleet operates from wharfs just a short distance away.

The aquarium is owned and operated by the province of New Brunswick. It is open to the public between June and the end of September each year.

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"I'll be back in four years to defend the title": Marcus Stroman gave up one hit in six-plus innings in the U.S.'s 8-0 win over Puerto Rico in the WBC final



Winnipegger a late bloomer for Pats

WHL PLAYOFFS

Brooks comes on strong to lead team to top ranking

A few years ago, Adam Brooks was sitting at the end of the bench, wondering if he had what it took to succeed in major junior hockey.

Back-to-back 100-point seasons, a couple of all-star selections and a realistic shot at a league championship has led him to his answer.

Brooks went unnoticed by scouts and was overlooked in his first two years of NHL draft eligibility. But now at age 20, he's leading the top-ranked Regina Pats into the Western Hockey League playoffs.

After breaking out and leading the WHL in scoring in 2015-16

with 120 points in 72 games, Brooks returned this season and put up 130 points in 66 games. He would have won his second straight scoring title if it wasn't for teammate Sam Steel, who finished the year with 131 points in 66 games.

"It goes back to (coach) John Paddock and (assistant) Dave Struch, those guys coming in and putting faith in me, allowing me to be the player I thought I was the whole time and ultimately I think I showed I am," said Brooks, who serves as team captain.

"Obviously when you're 16 and 17 you maybe get down on yourself too easy, but they came in they gave me another shot and some hope that

I could do something special in this league."

Brooks, a Winnipeg native, had just eight goals and 23 points in 115 games in his first two years with Regina. He referred to his role back then as a "fourth-line, energy type of guy."

But things started changing when Paddock took over coaching duties

ies to start the 2014-15 season. Brooks was able to come into training camp with a clean slate and at the trade deadline Paddock shipped out some of the veterans to restock for the future.

That gave Brooks the opportunity he was waiting for.

"He knew before that we had confidence in him and when he started playing in the offensive situations he started to blossom," Paddock said.

Brooks had a 30-goal season that year and hoped he improved enough to be selected in his second year of NHL draft eligibility. But his name was never called.

NHL clubs finally took notice after last season's 120-point campaign, with the Maple Leafs selecting him 92nd overall in 2016.

"After my first two years being passed over, I didn't think I'd be drafted," said Brooks.

"It was a little disheartening to see nothing happen. Going into my 19-year-old year I wanted to go out and prove that I could play professional hockey one day and show people it wasn't just a fluke that I made improvements."

"I guess putting up 120 points caught some teams' eyes and I was super thankful to be drafted by Toronto."

I guess putting up 120 points caught some teams' eyes.

Adam Brooks

KEITH HERSHMILLER/
REGINA PATS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PYEONGCHANG 2018

NHLers may play in Games regardless

Alex Ovechkin has pledged to attend the 2018 Olympics in South Korea whether the NHL opts to go or not, and the Russian superstar might not be alone.

Donald Fehr, the executive director of the NHL Players' Association, said the possibility of players choosing to compete in Pyeongchang even if the NHL decides against interrupting the 2017-18 season "would be the next issue which arises."

"I'm not sure we take the view that that's a league decision anyway," Fehr said by phone on Thursday afternoon. "It's very probably an individual club decision."

The NHL declined to comment on the matter when reached Thursday, but it's not difficult to envision the headache it would cause for the league if players, beyond just Ovechkin, opted to attend next

February while the NHL regular season continued to take place. The distraction alone would be enormous.

Both Fehr and the players don't want it to get to that point though. They're hoping for a resolution from the NHL which allows the group to attend a sixth consecutive Games.

"They know we think it's important,"

Fehr said. "They know that we believe very strongly that players ought to have an opportunity to play. They know we think it's in the long-run good for the game. And it's something that we ought to try and do."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Alex Ovechkin
GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Patriots recover Brady's stolen Super Bowl jerseys

Tom Brady's stolen Super Bowl jerseys are back with the New England Patriots.

The FBI in Boston announced that jerseys worn by Brady during this year's Super Bowl and the 2015 Super Bowl were returned to Gillette Stadium Thursday.

Mexican authorities searched the property of tabloid journalist Martin Mauricio Ortega, where they found the jerseys.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Homan flawless in round robin at world championship

Canada skip Rachel Homan tuned up for the playoffs in style Thursday by beating Italy and Denmark to remain unbeaten at the world women's curling championship in Beijing.

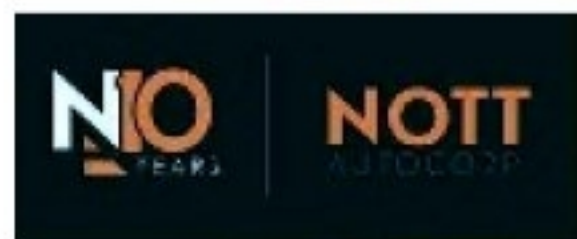
Homan closed out round-robin play with a perfect 11-0 record. As the top seed, she will open with the hammer in the Page playoff 1-2 game against Russia's Anna Sidorova on Friday night.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ STRONG YEAR

Regina (52-12-9) set a franchise record for wins and is a favourite to win its first WHL championship since 1980.

The Pats are riding an eight-game win streak and open the playoffs Friday night against the Calgary Hitmen.



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Herdman spurred on by sibling rivalry

CFL

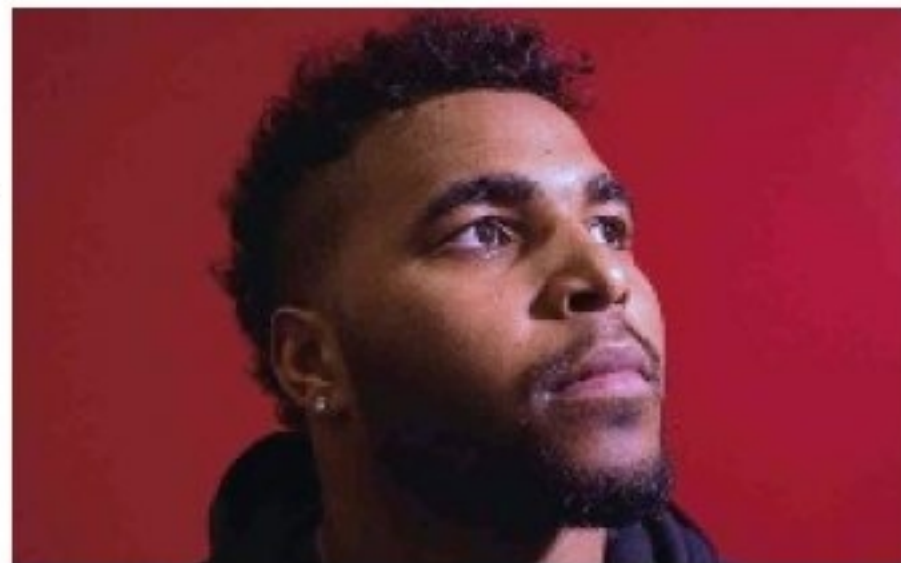
Simon Fraser product will face his brother at combine

Jordan Herdman will be running against more than just the clock at the CFL combine. Pushing the Simon Fraser linebacker will be none other than his twin brother, Justin, who also played linebacker with the Clan.

The Winnipeg natives will be among over 50 players looking to impress CFL coaches and GMs in testing slated for Friday and Saturday in Regina.

"We're very competitive so we know we're going to compete against each other and try to beat each other in everything we do," Jordan Herdman said. "There definitely will be a little competitiveness between us."

Combine participants will undergo medical examina-



Jordan Herdman is looking to improve upon the test results he posted at Simon Fraser's pro day. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

tions, run various individual drills as well as the 40-yard dash and compete in the 225-pound bench press. There will also be 1-on-1 competitions as well as interviews with officials representing the nine CFL teams.

With seven of the top-20 draft prospects listed by the CFL scouting bureau not participating,

the combine will present many players with a solid chance to impress.

Mississippi State offensive lineman Justin Senior and Laval tight end Antony Auclair, ranked first and second, respectively, won't be in attendance as Auclair held his pro day last week and Senior participated in the Bulldogs' session Wednesday.

Geoff Gray, an offensive lineman at Manitoba, is the fifth-ranked CFL draft prospect but isn't in Regina as he's scheduled to hold his pro day next week. Kwaku Boateng, a defensive lineman from Wilfrid Laurier, will be the top-ranked prospect in Regina at No. 6.

The combine is also important to the Herdman brothers.

Jordan, who participated in the Senior Bowl and has garnered NFL interest, is looking to improve upon the test results he posted at Simon Fraser's pro day March 14.

While the five-foot-11, 234-pound linebacker had solid efforts in the bench press (23 reps) and broad jump (nine feet four inches), he hopes to improve upon his 40-yard dash (4.97 seconds) and vertical jump (28-1/2 inches).

Following his pro day, Herdman revealed he was battling a hip ailment. But he's good to go for the CFL combine.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



NCAA OREGON DUCKS FLY OVER MICHIGAN WOLVERINES

The Michigan Wolverines' Moritz Wagner, left, is shadowed by the Oregon Ducks' Jordan Bell during their Sweet 16 encounter in Kansas City on Thursday night. Oregon edged Michigan 69-68. RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Ristolainen gets 3-game ban

The NHL has suspended Buffalo Sabres defenceman Rasmus Ristolainen for three games following his blindside hit that led to Pittsburgh Penguins forward Jake Guentzel sustaining a concussion.

The fine costs Buffalo's top defenceman \$90,000 in a ruling announced Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kjeldsen, Noren progress

Soren Kjeldsen and Alex Noren won their groups in the Dell Technologies Match Play in Texas, a round before group play is even finished.

Rory McIlroy took the day off, and he's already guaranteed the weekend off. Gary Woodland withdrew because of a personal matter, allowing Kjeldsen to advance. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Delicious Blueberry Grunt



PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This old-fashioned dessert boasts a warm, soup-y base and biscuit-y topping and only gets better when topped with vanilla ice cream.

Ready in 30 minutes

Prep time: 10 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes

Serves: 6

Ingredients

- 4 cups blueberries
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 Tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 2 tsp lemon zest
- 2 cups spelt flour
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- pinch of allspice
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 1/4 cups milk, more if necessary

Directions

1. In a 9-inch, deep skillet, mix blueberries, sugar, water, lemon juice and zest. Bring berry mixture to a boil then reduce to a simmer.

2. Meanwhile, sift flour, baking powder, sugar, salt and allspice into a bowl. Using a pastry cutter, cut in butter until in coarse crumbs. Mix in the milk using a fork until the dough comes together. (Add milk if the dough is too dry)

3. As the blueberries simmer, drop heaping tablespoons of the dough into the berries. Cover with a lid or tinfoil and allow dumplings to cook, about 12 to 15 minutes.

4. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream.

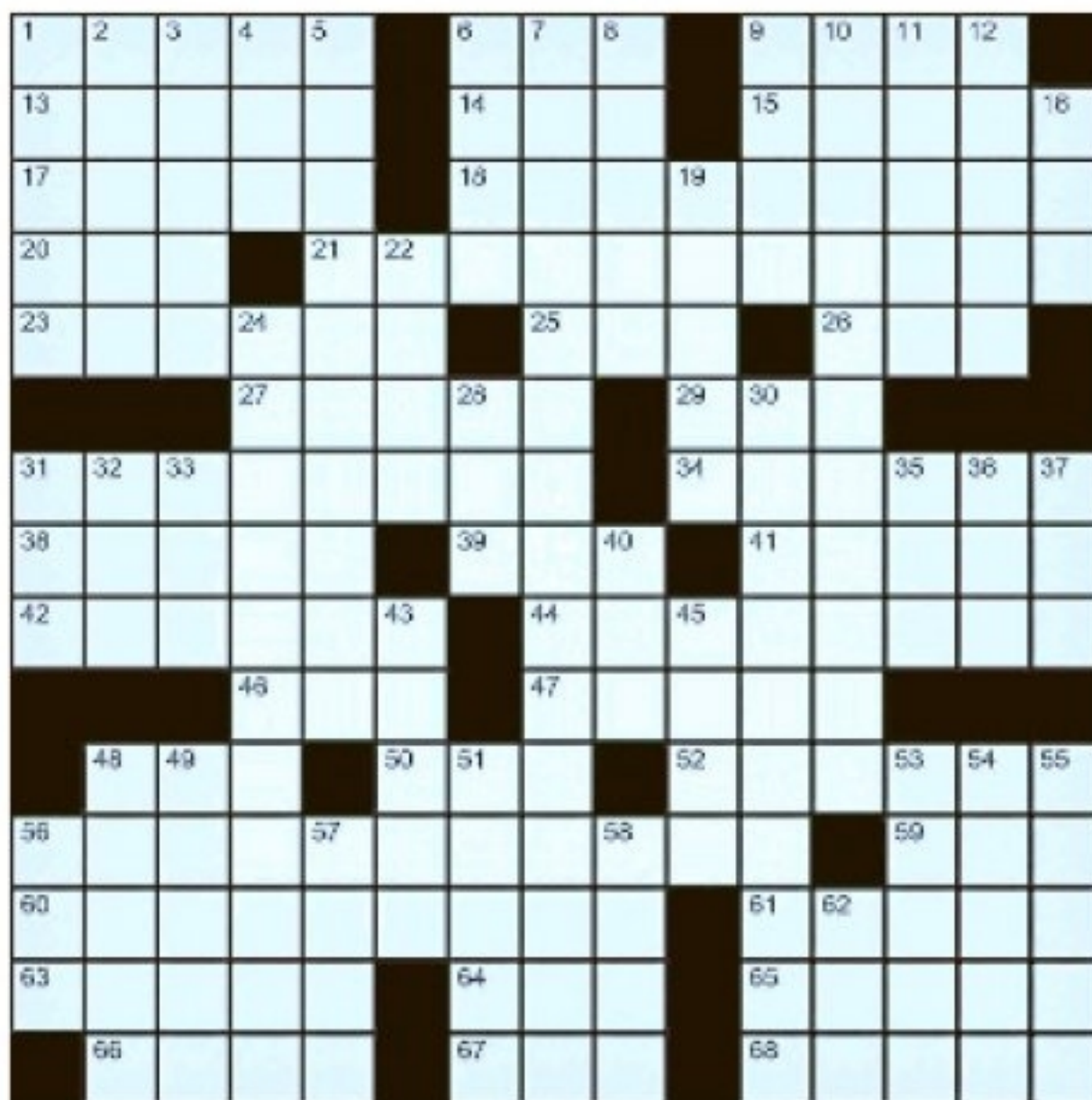
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ACROSS

- Commemorated celebration, curtly
- Canadian cinematic org.
- Finish in __ (Draw)
- Nintendo video brother
- Grand __ Opry
- Actor Lorenzo
- T.O. footballers
- Save a particular attraction for the end of the trip: 2 wds.
- Quebec 'Mrs.'
- Suited to a person's preferences or strengths: 3 wds.
- Spain: Guggenheim Museum locale
- Complete amount, briefly
- Previous
- Suffix denoting 'pain'
- Bambi's aunt
- Judd Hirsch sitcom: 2 wds.
- William Shatner's sci-fi novels/TV/comics/games franchise
- Prefix to 'hydrates'
- Fruit drink
- Quebec 'pen'
- Stream sorts
- Newfoundland town north of St. John's
- Speedwagon's lead-in
- "Anything Could Happen" by __ Goulding
- '__' in Niagara
- Spy org.
- Artificial/bogus
- When a Cadillac, for instance, turns pink



from white, it has undergone one: 3 wds.
59. __ rally
60. Canadian super-model who is the Brand Director at the Nomad agency: 2 wds.
61. "Why __ you ready yet?" (Get cracking!)

62. Modern English's
63. "With You"
64. __ Lingus (Ireland's flyer)
65. Gargle
66. Nice notion?
67. 2017 HS grads
68. Concluded

DOWN

- Gentle as __
- 'The Flying Finn', Paavo __ (b.1897 - d.1973)
- Mr. Lythgoe
- Whitesnake's "Here __ Again"
- Sight gag: 2 wds.
- De __ (Again,

in Latin)
7. Poetry collection published in 1912 of celebrated Mohawk/English performer E. Pauline Johnson (b.1861 - d.1913): 3 wds.
8. Hassle
9. Airdrie's prov.
10. Gordon Lightfoot's

"The Way I Feel" bit: "Like a __ alone and crying" (More at #30-Down)
11. " __ done!"
12. Allayed
16. Farm area
19. Small island
22. Corn dog
24. Striped twirler outside a haircut venue: 2 wds.
28. James of Smashing Pumpkins
30. Verse following the one at #10-Down... "When the birds have flown and the __"
31. Caesar's 700
32. Hearer
33. 'Hect' add-on
35. Colo. neighbour
36. Saloon's stock, shortly
37. Seoul's locale [acronym]
40. Annex
43. __-econom-ic status
45. Dog food brand
48. Ms. Watts
49. Bowed
51. Andes people, once
53. Overturn
54. Crowded
55. Selected
56. Nero's 201
57. Mr. Johnson
58. Smucker's containers
62. __ Tin Tin

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
You feel upbeat, confident and happy today. This is wonderful. Just be careful that you do not promise more than you can deliver.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Without question, this is a feel-good day! Enjoy your interactions with others, especially co-workers.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will enjoy talking to younger people today, especially in groups. You will encourage people to think big and embrace ambitious goals.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Conversations with parents and bosses will be uplifting today. Just make sure that you don't bite off more than you can chew.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
It's OK to have your head in the clouds, as long as you keep your feet on the ground. Travel plans look thrilling. Discussions about philosophy, politics and religion will be exciting and stimulating.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is a good day to discuss business matters, including those regarding shared property and debt. Do not be overly optimistic; stay in the realm of reality and common sense.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is a great day to schmooze with others, because you will attract people who have a youthful, upbeat attitude. Enjoy fun discussions with everyone!

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You are eager to make big plans at work. Quite possibly, these plans involve travel. Whatever the case, your interactions with co-workers will be friendly and positive.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a great day for sports events, the arts and playful excursions. Fun activities with children will delight. It's also a great date day. Enjoy yourself!

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Family discussions will be positive and ambitious today, because you are entertaining big plans.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Because you are in such a positive, winning state of mind, all your communications with others will be successful. This means you are good to go if you sell, market, teach, write or act.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You have ambitious moneymaking ideas today. Just make sure that your plans are doable, because it's easy to go overboard with one's expectations today. Remain realistic.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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